



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yosemite National Park

P.O. Box 577

Yosemite, California 95389

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A3823(YOSE)

September 11, 2003

Dear Yosemite Friends:

On behalf of the National Park Service, I am pleased to present the *Curry Village and East Yosemite Valley Campgrounds Improvement Projects Environmental Assessment*. The project is located in Yosemite Valley, and includes a comprehensive redevelopment of the entire Curry Village and Upper and Lower Pines campground areas consistent with the *General Management Plan* and *Yosemite Valley Plan*.

This environmental assessment includes many distinct projects: removal of tent cabins, addition of hard-sided cabins, reconfiguration of facilities and roads, addition of campsites and a new campground adjacent to Curry Village, new campground check station and shower house, and numerous other actions as outlined in the environmental assessment.

Public and agency participation has been a key element throughout this planning process. Yosemite National Park held public scoping and informal meetings throughout 2002 and 2003 to solicit ideas and concerns from park visitors, staff, American Indian groups, scientists, park partner organizations, and government agencies. The planning team reviewed public comments and identified a range of issues and concerns. This information was used to develop the alternatives and analysis in this environmental assessment.

There will be a 30-day comment period on the environmental assessment. If the environmental assessment and a Finding of No Significant Impact are approved, project construction is expected to begin in spring 2004.

We appreciate your interest in this planning effort and welcome your participation. Comments must be submitted in writing by October 11, 2003 and may be sent to:

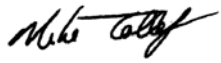
Mail: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park
ATTN.: Curry Village and East Yosemite Valley Campground Improvements
P.O. Box 577
Yosemite, California 95389

Fax: 209/379-1294
Email: Yose_Planning@nps.gov

Written comments will also be accepted at the National Park Service planning meeting held on September 24, 2003 (2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center East Auditorium. Planning teams will be on hand to answer questions and provide more information regarding the project as well as several other Yosemite National Park planning efforts.

This document can be reviewed online at www.nps.gov/yose/planning. To request an additional printed copy, refer to the contact information directly above or phone 209/379-1365.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Tollefson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Michael J. Tollefson
Superintendent